

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Regular Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Thursday, September 15, 2016.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor	
Councillor Christine Blair	District 1 (arrived 7:10 pm)
Deputy Mayor Bill Masters, Chair	District 2
Councillor Geoff Stewart	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District 5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District 9
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
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Staff Present

Mr. Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer
 Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
 Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Ms. Tracey Veno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary
 Ms. Kelly Gratto-McCarthy, HR Specialist (item # 5 only)

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Cooper
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item#10b, Colchester Food Bank, Request for Letter of Support ;
- Add Item #10c, Signage;
- Add Item #11b, Heavy Truck Traffic on Plains Road;
- Add Item #11c, Odours – Envirosystems Inc. (formerly AIS).”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
 Seconded by Councillor Stewart

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“That the minutes from the meeting held on August 11, 2016, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on August 11, 2016.

ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Policies

Ms. Gratto-McCarthy, Human Resources Specialist, provided an overview of the amendments to the Personnel Policies as presented in the Council package. The policies before Council this evening include:

- 2.03 Harassment Free and Respectful Workplace;
- 3.01, 3.02, 6.01, 6.02 & 6.03 - combined to form new 3.01 Salary Administration;
- 6.05 Vacation;
- 6.06 and 6.07 - combined to form new 6.06 Maternity and Parental Leave;
- 6.18 Group Insurance Plan;
- 6.19, 6.20 and 7.02 - combine to form new 6.19 Payroll Administration;
- 6.23 Non-Uniforms, Uniforms and Identification; and,
- 6.24 Wellness Program.

Referring to the policy on Maternity and Parental Leave, clarification was sought on leave eligibility being based on age for adoptive children. Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor, advised that legislation regarding leave for adoptive parents is the same across the board and is not based on the age of the children.

Discussion was held regarding the Vacation Policy, specific to increasing vacation from five to six weeks entitlement after 22 years of service. Clarification was sought on whether the change would be applicable to both Union and Non-Union staff. Staff confirmed that the maximum vacation entitlement in the existing Collective Agreement is five weeks but could be negotiated during the next round of collective bargaining.

Council requested two amendments to the policies as presented, as follows:

- Policy 6.03 Salary Administration - referring to section 5b which deals with additional duties for temporary assignments, Council

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requested the wording be changed to be more specific regarding the volume of duties for temporary assignments.

- Policy 6.24 Wellness Program – that running/hiking footwear should not be excluded from eligibility under the Program.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that Personnel Policies 2.03 Harassment; 3.01 Job Description; 3.02 Job Evaluation; 6.01 Employee Compensation; 6.02 Compensation Survey; 6.03 Salary Administration; 6.05 Vacation; 6.06 Maternity Leave; 6.07 Parental Leave; 6.18 Group Insurance Plan; 6.19 Payroll Deductions; 6.20 Payroll Garnishments; 7.02 Payroll Payment; 6.23 County Uniforms and Identification; and 6.24 Wellness Program; be repealed; and,

That Council Committee recommends to Council that Personnel Policies 2.03 Harassment Free and Respectful Workplace; 3.01 Salary Administration; 6.05 Vacation; 6.06 Maternity and Parental Leave; 6.18 Group Insurance Plan; 6.19 Payroll Administration; 6.23 Non-Uniforms, Uniforms and Identification; and 6.24 Wellness Program be approved, as amended; and,

That a report be provided to Council outlining total costs of the policy amendments.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

MRF Forklift ‘A’ Replacement

Staff advised that one of the forklifts at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) has reached its life cycle. Repair costs are estimated to be in excess of \$15,000. Replacement of the forklift was approved through the capital budget process.

A tender was issued on July 11, 2016 on the County and Provincial websites. Two tenders were received by the closing date of August 12, 2016. Staff are recommending that the tender be awarded to Wajax for the purchase of the 2016 Hyster, H60FT at the price of \$61,474 plus HST.

Council inquired about whether the purchase price was net of trade. Mr. Wamboldt advised that staff would be trying to sell the existing forklift through private sale.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

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“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the forklift tender be awarded to Wajax for the purchase of one (1) 2016 Hyster H60FT with onboard scale attachment for \$61,474 plus HST.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

November Committee Date Council had previously expressed concern with holding a Council or Committee meeting prior to a scheduled holiday. Staff are seeking directive on the upcoming November Committee meeting which is scheduled for November 10th, as Remembrance Day is the following day.

Council agreed to leave the scheduled date of November 10th for the Committee meeting.

Livestock Control By-law Committee Terms of Reference This item is intended to cover the composition of the Livestock Control By-law Committee. It was noted that at the August 25th Session of Council, authority was granted to September Committee to approve the Terms of Reference for the Livestock Control By-law Committee.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Livestock Control By-law Standing Committee as presented, and that four Councillors be appointed to the Committee as part of the Council Committee appointments post election.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Highway 236/Robie Street Trail - Award of Tender The multi-use trail in Lower Truro would extend from the Robie Street Roundabout along Highway 236 to the Truro Heights Road and existing Cobequid Trail.

The tender for the construction of the trail was advertised on the Municipal and Provincial websites in August with a closing on September 14th. The tender excluded the cost for the trail crossing over McClures Brook at Highway 236.

Staff are recommending that this tender be cancelled and be redesigned to include a trail crossing over McClures Brook with the intent to retender in the Spring of 2017.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

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“That Council approves the cancelling of the tender for the Highway 236/Robie Street Trail and request that staff revisit the design of the trail to include an alternate crossing at McClures Brook.”

Motion Carried.

(Deputy Mayor Masters, Councillors Cavanaugh, Gibbs and Cooper opposed)

Proclamation Policy Amendments

Council had previously requested that staff bring forth amendments to the Proclamation Policy which would allow proclamations be approved by both Council and Council Committee. The amended Proclamation Policy, as attached to the Action Item, outlines the procedure and approval process for Council consideration.

Moved by Councillor Cooper

Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Proclamation Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Colchester Food Bank Request for Letter of Support

Mr. Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that correspondence was recently received requesting a letter of support from the County endorsing the Colchester Food Bank’s new building project, for inclusion with their funding application through the Aviva Community Fund. Requests such as this would be considered by Council however, due to the timelines for submitting the application, the request is before Council Committee for consideration. Should Council choose to provide a letter of support, it would clearly indicate that it was endorsed by Council Committee.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes

Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council Committee provide a letter of support for the Colchester Food Bank’s new building project for inclusion with their funding application through the Aviva Community Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Signage

Mayor Taylor brought forth an issue of a resident being required to remove signage from their own property advertising for a third party, and is requesting that the Central Colchester Land Use By-law, specifically Part 8 which deals with signage, be revisited and all signs in violation be held in abeyance until such time the review is carried out.

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Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor, indicated that the Development Officer has a responsibility to enforce By-laws and advised against staff being directed not to proceed with enforcement duties. Mr. James suggested some language changes, such as requesting the Development Officer take into consideration any signage enforcement until such time that the review of the By-law is complete.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Part 8 of the Central Colchester Land Use By-law be revisited and that all signage in violation be held in abeyance until such time that the review is complete.”

Motion **Defeated**.
(Deputy Mayor Masters, Councillors Blair, Cooper, Stewart, MacKenzie, Gregory, MacInnes and Parker opposed)

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Part 8 of the Central Colchester Land Use By-law be revisited and that the Development Officer be requested to take this into consideration when dealing with signage enforcement until such time that the review is complete.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillor Gibbs opposed)

INFORMATION ITEMS

Ditches and Watercourses Act

Council had previously discussed stormwater runoff which resulted in brief discussion on the Ditches and Watercourses Act. As a result, staff met with the Municipal Solicitor to review the Act to see what role the Municipality could be involved in, regarding stormwater drainage on private properties.

The Act applies to Towns and Municipalities and speaks to obligations of property owners and the Municipality’s role to assist in disputes and enforce the property owner’s obligations.

Heavy Truck Traffic on Plains Road

Councillor MacInnes raised the issue of Heavy Truck Traffic on Plains Road which was discussed at previous Council meetings. Staff advised that a letter was sent to Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) regarding this and that they would follow up on the matter. Mayor Taylor also indicated that this would be added to the agenda of the next Quarterly TIR meeting.

Odours – Envirosystems Inc. (formerly AIS)

Councillor MacInnes expressed concern regarding odours coming from Envirosystems Inc. (formerly Atlantic Industrial Services (AIS)) and indicated that the odours are travelling further and affecting more residents. He indicated that the costs for the necessary upgrades to help control the odours would be expensive for Envirosystems to incur however, the citizens being affected by the odours also have to be taken into consideration.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That an invitation be extended to Envirosystems Inc. (formerly AIS) to make a presentation to Council at their earliest convenience.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Directors Report

A report from the Director of Community Development was circulated prior to this evening’s meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting adjourn at 9:07 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary